

## SEVERE LOCAL STORMS, MAY 1942

[Compiled by Mary O. Souder]

[The table herewith contains such data as has been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A revised list of tornadoes will appear in the United States Meteorological Yearbook]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Duluth, Minn., and vicinity	1	2:30 p. m.	67		\$10,000	Thundersquall	Considerable property damage; 1 person injured; path 20 miles long.
Nerva, Green Bay and Milwaukee, Wis.	1	3:30 p. m.			1,400	Wind	Barns, sheds and silos damaged. Part of the roof of the Menominee Sugar Co. plant at Green Bay torn off. At Milwaukee, 2 boats collided in the harbor entrance due to rough seas, 1 requiring minor damage.
Bainbridge to Roachdale, Ind.	1				3,000	do	Property damaged.
Noble, Pawnee, Osage, Washington, and Nowata Counties, Okla.	2	2:30 p. m., C. S. T.	67-1,760	3	30,000	Tornado, rain and hail.	This storm formed a few miles south of Morrison and traveled northeastward over a zigzag path for about 100 miles. At Pawhuska, in Osage County, practically all homes in 12 blocks were destroyed and in this area alone, 32 persons were injured, while damage to property was estimated at \$30,000. Continuous heavy rain accompanied by hail was general after the storm struck Pawhuska. Damage caused by hail, alone, could not be determined. Much of the territory over which the storm passed is grazing and pasture land and crop loss was therefore nominal.
Cushing, 2 miles south to Turley and Sperry, Okla.	2	3:15-6:30 p. m., C. S. T.	100-880	7	65,000	Tornado and hail.	Many buildings destroyed, trees uprooted, and power lines down. Many persons injured. Path 55 miles long. Loss from hail not estimated.
Highland, Kans., and vicinity.	2	3:30 p. m.	15		7,500	Heavy hail	Loss to crops, especially oats and wheat; path 14 miles long.
McCloud to Tuskegee, Okla., and vicinity.	2	3:30 p. m., C. S. T.	1,320	16	116,000	Tornado	Many homes and other buildings demolished and much property badly damaged. Several towns including Paden, Boley, Childsville, and Welty felt the disastrous effects of this storm, but greatest loss and destruction and loss of life occurred in the Negro district just north of Childsville where 16 persons died and many were injured. Property damage, \$41,000; crop loss, \$75,000; length of path 60 miles.
Fredonia, Chanute, Humboldt, La Harpe, Moran and Bolcourt, Kans., and vicinities.	2	3:30-5:20 p. m.	2,200-2,640	3	220,000	do	Chief damage to rural property, power lines and a school building; path 88 miles long.
Iola, Colony and Lone Elm, Kans., and vicinities.	2	4 p. m.	440		100,000	do	Many farm residences, barns, and outbuildings destroyed. In the vicinity of Colony and Lone Elm, 9 residences and 24 barns were demolished. Path 15 miles long.
Leavenworth, Kans., west of.	2	5 p. m.	110		4,500	Wind	Loss in crops; damage to property; path 10 miles long.
Osage and Douglas Counties, Kans.	2	7 p. m.	13		1,000	Heavy hail	Loss to crops; path 15 miles long.
Solomons, Va.	4	3:30 p. m.			1,000	Wind, rain and hail.	Barns and outbuildings destroyed; trees uprooted.
South Dakota, south-central portion.	4-6					Heavy rain and snow.	Some damage especially in Jones and Lyman Counties by flooding in lowlands; streams overflowing and roadbeds weakened by washouts; some power lines down.
Lexington County, S. C.	6	3 p. m.			500	Electrical	Lightning struck a school setting part of it on fire.
Cassville and Glen Haven, Wis., vicinity of.	9	do				Hail	Considerable damage reported.
Trego, Tex.	9	7 p. m.	13		60,000	Heavy hail	Chief damage to growing wheat over a path 6 miles long.
Cambridge, Nebr., 4 to 6 miles northeast.	9	11:30 p. m.	12		15,000	Hail	Loss principally in growing wheat; small damage to buildings.
Haskell, Gray and Ford Counties, Kans.	10	5-7:45 p. m.	67		20,000	Heavy hail	Extended from northwestern part of Haskell County to Dodge City in connection with the tornado that occurred about the same time. Loss in crops; path 50 miles long.
Haskell, Gray, and Ford Counties, Kans.	10	5-8 p. m.	440	0	80,000	Tornado	Originated in north-central Haskell County and ended north of Dodge City. Damage to farm property except in vicinity of Dodge City, where the chapel and dormitory of St. Marys Academy were demolished. A suburban cafe and dairy barn badly damaged. Two persons slightly injured; path 48 miles long.
Lenora, Kans., 4 miles north.	10	7:30 p. m.		0	30,000	do	Damage to farm property; path narrow and 4 miles long.
Nemaha County, Kans.	10	do	15		50,000	Heavy hail	Loss in crops; path 10 miles long.
York, Nebr., and vicinity.	11	5-6 p. m.	440	0	13,000	Tornado and hail.	Church and all buildings on 1 farm destroyed.
Oketo, Kans., vicinity of.	11	5:45 p. m.	12		10,000	Heavy hail	Property damage, \$350; loss in crops, \$9,650; path 5 miles long.
Sedan, Nebr.	11	11-12 p. m.	12		4,000	do	Loss in small grains and gardens over an area about 4 miles square.
Shiro, Tex.	12	1:30 a. m.	15		18,500	Heavy hail and rain.	Crop loss, \$11,000; property damage, \$7,500.
Shepherd, Tex.	12	4 a. m.	11	0	25,000	Tornado and hail.	Property damaged; loss in livestock.
Venango to Elsie, Nebr.	12	4-5:30 p. m.	300 yds., -6 mls. 12-10	0	50,000	do	Property damaged; 3 persons injured.
Oconto, Lodi, Berwyn, Westerville, Weissert, and Comstock, Nebr.	12	6-8 p. m.		0	70,000		Farm buildings destroyed with \$50,000 loss. In the vicinity of Broken Bow hail damage was estimated at \$20,000.
Antelope, Pierce, Knox, and Holt Counties, Nebr.	12	8-11 p. m.	440	6	80,000	Tornado	Farm buildings demolished or damaged; several persons injured.
Menno, S. Dak., vicinity of.	12	8:30 p. m.			10,000	Heavy hail	Loss in crops, \$5,000; property damage, \$5,000.
Morton to Albertville, Minn., and vicinities.	13	12:10-2:45 p. m.	100	0	153,700	Tornado, heavy rain, and hail.	Number of houses demolished and much property damage reported; length of path 6 to 27 miles long. A funnel cloud observed.
Polk to St. Croix Counties, Wis.	13	3-4 p. m.	17-33	0	50,000	Tornado	2 houses and 12 barns demolished; livestock injured and trees uprooted 2 persons injured, 1 seriously; path 10 to 12 miles long.
Black River Falls, Hatfield Loyal, Wis., and vicinities.	12	3 p. m.	100-167	1	100,000	do	Many homes and business places damaged, several demolished; 1 person seriously injured; path 35 miles long.
Columbia, Mo.	13	3:07 p. m.		0		Tornado and hail.	A farmhouse and 2 filling stations demolished; other property damaged.
Antigo, Wis., vicinity of.	13	3:45 p. m.		0	15,000	2 tornadoes	1 appeared first in the southern boundary of Langlade County, moved northeastward, passed 2 miles west of the city and ended about 4 miles north. Another tornado came from west of the city and closely followed the latter part of the path of the first, only half a mile separating the paths at 1 place. At least 2 farm residences were damaged and a number of barns and smaller buildings damaged or demolished.
Calamus, Iowa	13	5 p. m.			3,000	Wind, hail, and heavy rain.	Loss of crops washed out by flooding rain, \$1,000; property damaged, \$2,000.
Dallas, Tex.	13	5:30-6:40 p. m.	12		100,000	Straight-line wind and hail.	Property damaged; crop loss not given.
Ruston, La., and vicinity	14	2 p. m., C. W. T.	400			Hail	Considerable damage cotton, corn, oats, and truck.
Pahokee, Fla.	14	7-7:30 p. m.	880			do	Much damage, not estimated.
Canal Point, Fla.	14	7:20-7:45 p. m.	2,640		5,000	do	Loss in gardens and fruit.
Monticello, Miss., vicinity of.	14	5 p. m.				Heavy hail	Much crop loss; chickens and livestock killed.
Kersaw County, S. C.	15	P. m.		0	2,000	Tornado	Church demolished and several nearby structures damaged.
Genoa, Nebr.	16	5 p. m.	440		500	Hail	Barley, rye, and gardens on several farms damaged.
Bern, Kans., vicinity of.	17	11 a. m.	13		60,000	Heavy hail	Loss principally to crops; path 10 miles long.

1 Miles instead of yards.

## SEVERE LOCAL STORMS, MAY 1942—Continued

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Ringgold to Osceola Counties, Iowa.	17	3 p. m.	1-4		\$30,000	Hail, wind and heavy rain.	Chickens and pigs killed; strawberries and truck damaged; windows broken and roofs damaged. Gardens, clover, alfalfa, small grains and corn damaged by hail and flooding rain; path 35 miles long.
Tishomingo, Okla.	17	4:30 p. m., C. S. T.	1 10		45,000	Hail and wind	Loss in corn, fruit and truck, \$30,000; damage to property, \$15,000; path 30 miles long.
Navasota, Tex., vicinity of	18	5 p. m.	1 1		50,000	Straight-line wind and hail.	Crop loss, \$49,000; property damage, \$1,000.
Ablene, Tex.	18	6:35-7 p. m.	1 2		15,000	Heavy hail.	Property damaged; crop loss not estimated.
Minnesota, east-central and west-central counties.	18			1	78,500	Heavy rain and flood	Frequent light to heavy rains during the month resulted in high water in lakes and streams. Highways, roads, and lowlands inundated. A farmer drowned near Ortonville. In the vicinities of Pine City, Ruthledge, Altkin, and Ortonville, there was considerable washing and flooding of prospective crops.
Finney and Grant Counties, Kans.	19	5:30-6:30 p. m.	1 1-4		60,000	Heavy hail	Path not continuous; loss in crops; path 30 miles long.
Townville and Fair Play, S. C.	20	P. m.			1,000	Hail	Considerable wheat and oats beaten into the ground and many fields of young crops had to be replanted.
Clay Center, Nebr.	21	3 a. m.	1 4		10,000	do	Small grains and gardens damaged.
Lushton, Nebr.	21	4 p. m.	2,640		10,000	do	Small grains, gardens, roofs, and windows damaged.
Nuckolls County, Nebr.	21	4-5 p. m.	1 3-6		40,000	Hail and wind	Loss in small grains; trees, small buildings, roofs, and windows damaged.
Hand County, S. Dak.	21	4:20 p. m.			2,500	Heavy rain and hail.	Roads, culverts, and bridges washed out; trees, fields, and gardens damaged; poultry killed.
McLough, Kans., 3 miles southeast.	22	3 p. m.		0		Tornado	Funnel cloud observed by many persons, but apparently did not extend to the ground.
Monett, Kans.	22	3-4 p. m.	880-1,760		2,000	Heavy hail	Drifts of hailstones a foot deep along the highway.
Ravalli County, Mont.	22	5:40-6 p. m.	2,640			Rain and hail	Damage to peas and gardens: fields washed by heavy rain.
Walla, Columbia, and Garfield Counties, Wash.	22	P. m.	1 2-10		100,000	do	The major portion of the damage was caused by floods in valley and gorges due to the high intensity of the rainfall for a short duration. Damage to roads, bridges, buildings, crops, and livestock.
Delaware and Sullivan Counties, N. Y.	22-23					Heavy rain and flood.	Many thousands of dollars' damage as buildings were swept away or collapsed; highways inundated and bridges and railroads washed out. Erosion and flooding caused extensive agricultural loss.
Custer County, Mont.	24	1-1:20 p. m.	2,640		60,000	Heavy hail	Chickens and lambs killed. No crop loss as vegetation not sufficiently advanced.
Minnesota, extreme south-eastern and southwestern counties.	25-31				100,000	Rain and flood	Heavy to extensive rains washed out highways, roads and bridges, and railroad tracks; many basements and streets flooded; merchandise damaged; creosote block pavements buckled. A number of houses and other buildings partially submerged; lowlands inundated; growing crops damaged considerably; much poultry perished.
Bryant, S. Dak., vicinity of	27	6:15 p. m.	100	0		Tornado	A funnel cloud dipped down several times destroying a feed barn, stock pavilion, and farm elevator; uprooted 27 trees and disrupted light and telephone system besides breaking plate glass windows and store fronts; path 200 yards long.
Birby, Minn., and vicinity	29	12:27 a. m.			15,000	Thundersqualls	Barn and railroad coal shed demolished; some buildings moved from their foundations or otherwise damaged. Chimneys toppled, automobiles and farm machinery damaged; trees uprooted, poles and wires down; path several miles long.
Clark and Hamlin Counties, S. Dak.	29	6 a. m.				Wind, rain, and hail.	Storm cut a 10-mile swath across these counties damaging many buildings, washing out railroad tracks and cutting off communication.
Big Stone, Lac Qui Parle, and Yellow Medicine Counties, Minn.	29	7 a. m.-9 p. m.			28,100	Thundersqualls	Number of barns; outbuildings, and windmills demolished; many farm buildings damaged; trees uprooted.
Silverton, Tex., vicinity of	29	6 p. m.	1 1	0	10,000	Tornado and heavy hail.	Buildings on one farm completely destroyed; number of other farm buildings damaged and stock killed.
Minneapolis, St. Paul, Minn., and vicinity.	29	6:30-7:45 p. m.			5,000	Thunderstorm and hail.	Considerable damages in places to gardens and property.
Big Stone, Lac Qui Parle, and Yellow Medicine Counties, Minn.	29	9 p. m.	1 20		26,900	Hail	Much damage in places to growing crops and property. Much poultry and some livestock perished. Some fields of flax practically ruined and small grains damaged.
Silverton, Tex., vicinity of	29	do	1 1	0		Tornado	House and several barns wrecked; other damage reported.
Del Norte, Colo.	29	11:59 p. m.			100,000	Wind and dust	Chief damage to plate glass windows.
Michigan, Muskegon and Ottawa Counties—east-southeastward across the lower peninsula.	29	P. m.	1 30-50	9	500,000	Thundersqualls	Throughout the entire belt trees and utility poles were down and roads were blocked in many sections. Most extensive damage in the vicinity of Howell where 4 persons were killed, 75 barns blown down, houses and buildings damaged, and orchard and shade trees uprooted or broken off with estimated damage at from \$325,000 to \$350,000. Scattered local damage in other parts of the State.
Claude, Tex.	30	4:40-6 p. m.	1 3		6,000	Straight-line wind and hail.	Loss to crops.
Lyon, Osceola, and Dickinson Counties, Iowa to Jackson County, Minn.	30	5-6:30 p. m.	880	0	60,000	Tornado and hail	The disturbance developed southeast of Little Rock and west of Sibley at about 5 p. m., causing damage to buildings on 1 farm. About 6 p. m., the storm developed at a point 20 miles to the east near Harris and proceeded to move very slowly east-northeastward passing near Lake Park and crossing into Jackson County, Minn. Serious damage occurred on 8 farms in Iowa and 3 in Minnesota. The path was about 12 to 14 miles long. It is reported that 3 funnel clouds were observed at one time.
Windsor, Colo.	30	6 p. m.	1 10		30,000	Hail	Loss in crops.
Jackson County, Minn.	30	6:30 p. m.		0	15,000	Tornado	Serious damage on 3 farms.
Ness, Trego, and Ellis Counties, Kans.	30	7 p. m.	1 3-8		200,000	Heavy hail	Storm extended from near Utica to eastern part of Ellis though the path was not continuous. Chief loss to wheat. Property damage occurred at the Fort Hays Experiment Farm; path 55 miles long.
Sterling, Colo.	30	8:15 p. m.	1 15		600,000	Hail	Loss to crops; property damaged.
Sauk Centre, Minn., and vicinity.	30	10:30 p. m.	1 4		77,000	Thunderstorm and hail.	Extensive damage in places to property and growing crops; much poultry and some livestock perished.
Chambersburg, Pa., vicinity of.	30	P. m.			3,000	Electrical	Barn with contents burned.
Morris, Minn., and vicinity	31	12:30 a. m.	880		2,000	Hail and thunderstorm.	Much damage to growing crops; path 2,640 yards long.
Guymon, Okla.	31	2:40-4:18 p. m.	1,320	0	75,000	Tornado and hail	Property damaged at the Oklahoma Electric and Water Plant disabling the plant. 2.54 inches of rain fell in 20 minutes. Many residences destroyed and buildings damaged; crop loss \$75,000.
Delphos and Le Mar, Kans., and vicinities.	31	4:30 p. m.	200	0	50,000	Tornado	Many farm buildings totally destroyed; path 8 miles long.
Grant County, Kans.	31	5 p. m.	1 4		15,000	Heavy hail	Extended from southwest to northeast across the county. Loss to wheat; path 25 miles long.
Ottawa and Clay Counties, Kans.	31	6-9 p. m.	880	0	6,000	Tornado and hail	From 50 to 100 percent of wheat damaged; path 4 miles long.
Riley, Kans.	31	7 p. m.			25,000	Wind	Chief damage in Manhattan where many trees and power lines were blown down with some damage to buildings and automobiles; path 4 miles long.
Perry and Cumberland Counties, Pa.	31	P. m.			100,000	Wind, hail, electrical.	Grain lodged; houses unroofed; silos blown over and buildings moved on their foundations. Trees and utility poles down. Property damage, \$65,000; crop loss, \$35,000.

1 Miles instead of yards.